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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,504	09/12/2003	Yuh-Chin Chang	MR929-912	5654
4586	7590	09/14/2004	EXAMINER	
ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE 3458 ELLICOTT CENTER DRIVE-SUITE 101 ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043			GHEBRETISSAE, TEMESGHEN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2637	

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/660,504	Applicant(s) CHANG ET AL.	
	Examiner Temesghen Ghebretinsae	Art Unit 2637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. It would be of great assistance to the Office if all incoming papers pertaining to a filed application carried the following items:

1. Application number (checked for accuracy, including series code and serial no.).
2. Group art unit number (copied from most recent Office communication).
3. Filing date.
4. Name of the examiner who prepared the most recent Office action.
5. Title of invention.
6. Confirmation number (See MPEP § 503).

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 2, "the regular pulse" should be ---a regular pulse---; "the highest occurrence" should be ---a highest occurrence---; "the shortest" should be ---a shortest length---. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 2; claim 2, line 9; and claim 3, line 22 "the compression rate" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 1, line 3, "the pulse code modulation process" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 1, line 7, "the compressed data size" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 1, line 8, "the conventional ADPCM coding" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 2, line 16, "the regular ADPCM codes" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 2, line 19, "the compressed data" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 2, line 20, "the pure ADPCM codes" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 2, line 20, "the original audio signal" lack clear antecedent basis.

In claim 3, line 23, "the Hoffman coding" lack clear antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smyth et al. (5,956,6740)

7. Smyth discloses a method of optimizing the compression rate in ADPCM (72) that uses a variable length coding (172) based on the probability of occurrence of data bits to improve the performance over conventional ADPCM. See figs.15, 17,23 and col.21, lines 1-16; col.22, lines 1-12; col. 28, line 64 to col.29, line 31.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smyth in view of Park et al (5,786,780).

Smyth discloses all the subject matters described above. Smyth differs from the claimed invention in that he is silent whether the variable length encoder is based on the Huffman coding scheme. First Huffman coding scheme is a well know coding scheme based in a method of associating symbols and code words based on the frequency of occurrence of the symbols. Furthermore, Park discloses a variable length encoder and decoder, wherein the variable length encoder is based on the probability of occurrence of data bits to convert the ADPCM code to new variable length code, whereby the pulse code with the highest occurrence rate (frequency) is assigned a variable length code with the shortest length, and the pulse code with lesser occurrence rate (frequency) is assigned a new code with longer length. See col.1, lines 35-48. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow Smyth's apparatus to incorporate this well know element (Hoffman coding scheme) because of it's inherent use in the compression system.

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Smyth (6,487,535) and Golin et al (5,225,904) are cited to show ADPCM coding and variable length encoder.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Temesghen Ghebretinsae whose telephone number is 571-272-3017. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8 to 6

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel, can be reached on 571-272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

T.G.

9/8/04.

Temesghen Ghebretinsae
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2637

TEMESGHEN GHEBRETINSAE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

